



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



AFZX-SA

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Soldier Fell Asleep At the Wheel -- Safety Alert 07-01

1. A Soldier fell asleep and was involved in a POV accident while driving back from Lake Charles. The Soldier had worked many long hours without rest. He was counseled by his chain of command not to drive to Lake Charles that evening. The Soldier chose to ignore his chain of command and was returning from Lake Charles at 0200 the next morning when he dozed off, crossing the road into an oncoming 18-wheeler. The accident resulted in both vehicles rolling and a serious foot injury to the Soldier.

2. What were the mistakes?


- a. Violating Fighter Management. Driving while fatigued.
- b. Overconfident in his driving skills and over estimating his personal endurance.
- c. Ignoring the orders of his chain of command.

3. Lessons Learned:

- a. Fighter management saves lives. Fatigued Soldiers are a hazard to themselves and others.
- b. Commands must institute safety programs. Soldiers must follow these programs.
- c. Leaders must know their Soldiers. Leaders must council and monitor results.

4. Do not let your Soldiers drive fatigued. Manage fighter management at the lowest possible level. Continue to use FP Reg 385-7. Leaders, stay involved and ensure our Soldiers come back alive.

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF TO ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS!


DANIEL P. BOLGER
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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